

Message Text

SECRET

PAGE 01 CAIRO 01626 161009Z

ACTION NODS-00

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 /001 W

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FM AMEMBASSY CAIRO

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 4285

INFO AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV IMMEDIATE

AMCONSUL JERUSALEM IMMEDIATE

SECRET CAIRO 01626

EXDIS (HANDLE AS NODIS)

JERUSALEM FOR THE SECRETARY AND ASSTSEC ATHERTON

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PEPR, EG, US

SUBJECT: LETTER TO SADAT FROM PRESIDENT CARTER

- AND NSC DEBATE

REF: STATE 11071

1. ASKED VP MUBARAK THIS MORNING TO ARRANGE FOR ME TO SEE SADAT TO DELIVER REF LETTER. MUBARAK SUGGESTED THAT UNLESS LETTER IS URGENT, I WAIT UNTIL TOMORROW, TUESDAY, TO DELIVER IT. AS RESULT DIFFICULT PAST WEEK AND WEEKEND, AND AN ESPECIALLY DIFFICULT MEETING WITH NSC YESTERDAY, SADAT IS VERY TIRED AND MUBARAK WOULD LIKE TO GIVE HIM A CHANCE TO REST. HE UNDERTOOK ARRANGE MEETING.

2. ASKED ABOUT NSC SESSION, MUBARAK SAID IT WAS ONE OF THE TOUGHEST HE HAD EVER ATTENDED. THERE WAS STRONG FEELING ON PART VIRTUALLY ALL PARTICIPANTS--ESPECIALLY AFTER HEARING ACCOUNT OF AGENDA PROBLEM, WEIZMAN'S TALK WITH SADAT AND MILITARY COMMITTEE MEETING--THAT THE ISRAELIS ARE PLAYING A GAME. INITIAL CONSENSUS WAS NOT

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TO SEND KAMEL TO JERUSALEM TALKS, BUT SADAT OVERRULED THIS WHEN MY TELEPHONE CALL WAS RECEIVED INDICATING ISRAELI CABINET ACCEPTANCE OF CONTROVERSIAL AGENDA POINT. THERE WAS ALSO VEILED CRITICISMS THAT SADAT HAD GIVEN BEGIN TOO MUCH IN TERMS OF "NATURE OF PEACE" AND HAD RECEIVED NO COMMENSURATE RESPONSE. BEGIN PLAN VIEWED AS SIMPLE REHASH OF OLD ISRAELI IDEAS AND WEIZMAN'S

INSISTENCE ON RETAINING ISRAELI SETTLEMENTS AND AIRDROMES IN SINAI AROUSED BITTER RESENTMENT. ACCORDING MUBARAK, THERE WERE VOICES IN NSC (UNIDENTIFIED) WHICH ARGUED ISRAELI POSITION MAKES MEANINGFUL PEACE TALKS IMPOSSIBLE AND THAT PROCESS OUGHT TO BE STOPPED UNTIL ISRAELIS RESPOND MORE POSITIVELY. SADAT AND HE HAD INSISTED EGYPTIAN DELEGATION SHOULD AT LEAST GO TO JERUSALEM POLITICAL COMMITTEE TALKS. RESULTS OF JERUSALEM TALKS COULD THEREAFTER BE EVALUATED AND A DECISION COULD BE MADE WHETHER TO RECESS TALKS INDEFINITELY OR CARRY ON.

3. THIS IS THE EGYPTIAN COUNTERPART OF BEGIN'S CRISIS OF CONFIDENCE CITED STATE 11061. EILTS

SECRET

NNN

Message Attributes

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Decapton Date: 01 jan 1960
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